



JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR.  
MAYOR

*City of Charleston*  
*South Carolina*

BARBARA W. VAUGHN  
DIRECTOR  
PUBLIC INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 18, 2009

**Mayor Proclaims Olympic Day and Citywide Celebration**

*The City of Charleston takes part in international day celebrating Olympic values and ideals*

Charleston, SC – Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. announced today that June 23 will be celebrated citywide as Olympic Day with a special event featuring celebrations at all City of Charleston day camps. Mayor Riley and former Olympic athlete, Kate Borg of Charleston, will attend Jump to It summer camp at the Arthur Christopher City Gym at 1:00 PM on June 23<sup>rd</sup> to present a proclamation. Ms. Borg who was a member of the 1992 US Olympic Team in the sport of Canoe/Kayak will also talk with the camp about the importance of sportsmanship in competition.

Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. said, “The City of Charleston is committed to offering our citizens the best possible opportunities to engage in fitness and I am delighted that we have joined cities across our nation to celebrate the spirit of the Olympic Games. Sharing the importance of sports and sportsmanship is a wonderful learning opportunity to provide to the children of our summer camps.”

The United States Olympic Committee (USOC) celebrates Olympic Day annually with events at the Olympic Training Centers and official training sites, as well as coordinating activities with affiliated sport National Governing Bodies and multi-sport organizations. This year, through a partnership with Chicago 2016, Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley and the U.S. Conference of Mayors, Olympic Day celebrations have expanded to cities across the country. In each community, the program will encourage physical activity and promote the Olympic values of fair play, cooperation and respect for others. Chicago 2016 is the organization seeking the privilege to host the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

At the urging of Mayor Daley during the U.S. Conference of Mayors in January in Washington, D.C., Mayor Riley joined mayors across the country in a collective pledge of support for hosting the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Chicago in 2016. Today’s mayoral proclamation and the community’s cooperative celebration with other cities will send a clear message to the International Olympic Committee that the City of Charleston and the United States of America support Chicago’s bid for the Games. The 2016 Host City will be named on October 2, 2009, in Copenhagen, Denmark. Chicago is competing for this honor alongside Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), Tokyo (Japan), and Madrid (Spain).

Olympic Day is a worldwide commemoration of Baron Pierre de Coubertin's June 23, 1894, convening of the first International Olympic Committee meeting at the Sorbonne in Paris, and the founding of the Modern Olympic Games. National Olympic Committees throughout the world will also participate in the international celebration, with each Olympic Committee sending Olympic Day greetings to participating nations.

**WHAT: Olympic Day event**  
**WHEN: Tuesday, June 23, 2009 1:00 PM**  
**WHERE: Arthur Christopher City Gymnasium, 65 Hagood Avenue**

**FOR MORE INFO:** Barbara Vaughn, Director  
Media Relations/Public Information  
Phone: (843) 724-3746 Fax: (843) 724-3734  
Email: [vaughnb@ci.charleston.sc.us](mailto:vaughnb@ci.charleston.sc.us)